

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A refrigerator comprising:

a housing;

a door pivotally coupled to the housing, the door including a side that defines a first recess;

a cap portion that defines a second recess, the cap portion disposed within ~~coupled to the~~ first recess defined in the side of the door such that the second recess is disposed within the door;

a striker connected to the housing; and

a latching arrangement carried by the door, the latching arrangement including:

a handle connected to and disposed within the second recess for movement between a first position and a second position, the handle defining at least one cam surface;

a pawl connected to and disposed within the second recess for movement between a latched position engaged with the striker for securing the door in a closed position and an unlatched position allowing the door to be pivoted from the closed position, the pawl including a cam follower that cooperates with the at least one cam surface such that movement of the handle from the first position to the second position drives the cam follower

along an arcuate path and thereby rotates the pawl from the latched position to the unlatched position; and

wherein the latching arrangement is disposed within the second recess of the door cap portion such that the handle and pawl are hidden from view when the door is in the closed position.

2. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 1, wherein the handle is pivotally connected to the door for rotation about a first pivot axis, the first pivot axis being a vertically extending axis.

3. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 2, wherein the pawl is pivotally connected to the door for rotation about a second pivot axis, the second pivot axis being fixed.

4. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 3, wherein the cam surface is a curved cam surface.

5. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 3, wherein the handle includes a first free end and a second free end, the first pivot axis located proximate the first free end and the cam follower located proximate the second free end.

6. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 3, wherein the first and second pivot axes are located along a line substantially parallel to a front face of the door.

7. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 2, wherein the latching arrangement includes a leaf spring carried by the handle for biasing the handle to the first position.

8. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 7, wherein the handle includes a first free end and a second free end, the first pivot axis located proximate the first free end and the leaf spring located proximate the second free end.

9. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 1, wherein the handle includes a curved slot, the curved slot defining the at least one cam surface.

10. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 9, wherein the slot is curved along its length to drive the cam follower along the arcuate path.

11. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 9, wherein the curved slot is defined by at least a pair of fingers.

12. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 1, wherein the latching arrangement is located at an edge of the door with the handle extending generally parallel to a front face of the door along its entire length.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 1, wherein the refrigerator is for a motor vehicle.

15. (Currently Amended) A latching arrangement in combination with a refrigerator having a housing, a door pivotally coupled to the housing and a striker connected to the housing, the latching arrangement for a refrigerator comprising:

a handle for connection to the door for movement between a first position and a second position, the handle defining at least one cam surface;

a pawl for connection to the door for movement between a latched position engaged with the striker for securing the door in a closed position and an unlatched position allowing the door to be pivoted from the closed position, the pawl including a cam follower that cooperates with the at least one cam surface such that movement of the handle from the first position to the second position drives the cam follower along an arcuate path and thereby rotates the pawl from the latched position to the unlatched position;

a cap portion that defines a recess, the cap portion coupled to a side of the door such that the recess is disposed within the door; and

wherein the latching arrangement is disposed within ~~[[a]]~~ the recess of the ~~door~~ cap portion such that the handle and pawl are hidden from view when the door is in the closed position, with the handle disposed entirely within the recess.

16. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 15, wherein the latching arrangement includes a biasing element carried by the handle and proximate the pawl for biasing the handle to the first position.

17. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 16, wherein the biasing element is a leaf spring.

18. (Original) The refrigerator of Claim 15, wherein the handle includes a slot, the slot defining the at least one cam surface.

19. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 18, wherein the slot is curved along its length to drive the cam follower along the arcuate path.

20. (Original) The refrigerator of Claim 18, wherein the slot is defined by at least a pair of fingers.

21. (Currently Amended) A refrigerator comprising:

a housing;

a door pivotally coupled to the housing, the door including a top side, the top side defining a first recess;

a cap portion that defines a second recess, the cap portion disposed within the first recess;

a striker connected to the housing;

a latching arrangement carried by the door, the latching arrangement including:

a handle connected to the door for movement between a first position and a second position about a first pivot axis, the handle ~~substantially~~ disposed ~~[[in]]~~ entirely within the second recess and defining at least one cam surface;

a pawl connected to the door driven by the handle to rotate about a fixed pivot axis between a latched position engaged with the striker for securing the door in a closed position and an unlatched position allowing the door to be pivoted from the closed position, the pawl including a cam follower that cooperates with the at least one cam surface such that movement of the handle from the first position to the second position drives the cam follower and rotates the pawl from the latched position to the unlatched position; and

wherein the handle is concealed by a perimeter of the door when the door is in the closed position.

22. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 21, wherein movement of the handle from the second position to the first position drives the pawl to rotate from the unlatched position.

23. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 21, wherein the pawl is pivotally connected to the door for rotation about a second pivot axis, the second pivot axis being a fixed pivot axis.

24. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 23, wherein the first and second pivot axes are spaced apart from one another along a line, the line being substantially parallel to a front face of the refrigerator.

25. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 23, wherein the handle includes a first free end and a second free end, the first pivot axis located proximate the first free end and the cam follower located proximate the second free end.

26. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator of Claim 23, wherein the first and second pivot axes are vertically extending pivot axes, each disposed rearward from a front face of the refrigerator.

27. - 29. (Cancelled)